

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1200

To amend the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996 to reauthorize the Deschutes River Conservancy Working Group, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 31, 2025

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

---

## A BILL

To amend the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996 to reauthorize the Deschutes River Conservancy Working Group, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Deschutes River Con-  
5 servancy Reauthorization Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF DESCHUTES RIVER CONSER-**  
7 **VANCY WORKING GROUP.**

8 (a) **DEFINITION OF WORKING GROUP.**—Section  
9 301(a) of the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996

1 (Public Law 104–208; 110 Stat. 3009–534; 122 Stat.  
2 836) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting  
3 the following:

4 “(1) WORKING GROUP.—The term ‘Working  
5 Group’ means the Deschutes River Conservancy  
6 Working Group composed of a board of directors of  
7 not fewer than 10, but not more than 15, members  
8 nominated by the group represented by the member,  
9 of whom—

10 “(A) 2 members shall be representatives of  
11 the environmental community in the Deschutes  
12 River Basin;

13 “(B) 2 members shall be representatives of  
14 the irrigated agriculture community in the  
15 Deschutes River Basin;

16 “(C) 2 members shall be representatives of  
17 the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs  
18 Reservation of Oregon;

19 “(D) 1 member shall be a representative of  
20 the hydroelectric production community in the  
21 Deschutes River Basin;

22 “(E) 1 member shall be a representative of  
23 1 of the Federal agencies with authority and re-  
24 sponsibility in the Deschutes River Basin;

1           “(F) 1 member shall be a representative of  
 2           an agency of the State of Oregon with authority  
 3           and responsibility in the Deschutes River Basin,  
 4           such as—

5                   “(i) the Oregon Department of Fish  
 6                   and Wildlife; or

7                   “(ii) the Oregon Water Resources De-  
 8                   partment; and

9           “(G) 1 member shall be a representative of  
 10          a unit of local government in the Deschutes  
 11          River Basin.”.

12          (b) REAUTHORIZATION; ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—  
 13          Section 301 of the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of  
 14          1996 (Public Law 104–208; 110 Stat. 3009–534; 122  
 15          Stat. 836) is amended—

16               (1) in subsection (b)—

17                   (A) in paragraph (3), by striking “2016”  
 18                   and inserting “2032”; and

19                   (B) in paragraph (6), by striking “5 per-  
 20                   cent” and inserting “10 percent”; and

21               (2) in subsection (h), by striking “2016” and  
 22          inserting “2032”.

○